

REMARKS

The invention, as presently claimed is a method and apparatus for driving multiple displays of different types, specifically raster displays, stroke displays and hybrid displays, and to dynamically switch between displays in real time.

Claims 34, 35, 39, 42, 44, 45, 49 and 52 were objected to because the terms Open GL and VAPS were undefined. The specification has been amended to define these terms. Open GL is a software interface to graphics hardware as defined in the amended specification beginning on page 4, line 8. VAPS is a trademark owned by Virtual Properties, Inc., for a tool for building interactive display application data as graphics or generated code. This term was and is defined in the amended specification at page 3, beginning on line 26 and page 10, beginning on line 10. These amendments obviate the Examiner's objections.

The drawings were objected to because they did not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Substitute drawings are being submitted showing the dynamic switches, occlusion memory, generated code (VAPS®) formats, linking generated code. No new matter was added. A red-line version of the drawings is also being submitted. The Examiner questioned the meaning of several acronyms. The acronyms have been defined in the amended paragraph of the specification on page 4, beginning on line 8.

Claims 33-25, 37-39, 42-45, 47-49 and 52 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tomiyasu. Tomiyasu teaches a computer device for driving many display devices. However, the variety of displays is very specific. These device are all raster based displays. Tomiyasu does not provide a method of driving a stroke (vector-based) display. The novelty of the claimed design is the ability to drive stroke and raster with the same interface. The amended claims drive raster, stroke and hybrid displays. The Tomiyasu patent has no method for switching raster and stroke nor for driving a hybrid display. Further, Tomiyasu teaches a method for changing displays

using the keyboard to control the switching operation of display units. This is a hardware switch. The present invention is a software method to drive multiple displays at the same time, and allowing the software to switch which information goes to each display and in the necessary format. Tomiyasu does not deal with those issues at all. In addition, Tomiyasu uses a hardware and software solution to the unique problem it solves, while the present invention is solely a software solution for the different and unique problem. In order to further differentiate the present invention, independent claims 33 and 43 have been amended to specifically set out the three display types that the invention can be driven with. Independent claims 38 and 48 were not amended because they claim a single interface to drive hybrid displays using raster display formats, which Tomiyasu does not discuss or imply, as argued above. Therefore, the independent claims are allowable.

Claims 36, 40, 41, 46, 50 and 51 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tomiyasu in view of Tokuhashi, et al. Tomiyasu has been discussed above. Tokuhashi teaches a controller for many heads up displays (HUD). This patent describes operating a plurality of modes of operation. The modes of operation are normal, see-through and superimposition. All of these displays are the same type; raster based HUD displays. There is no mention or inference that these patents alone or in combination could drive a stroke type display. The ability to switch from raster to stroke through software drivers is not described in Tomiyasu or Tokuhashi. There is not an obvious method derived from these patents from which one could incorporate a method to dynamically switch, in real time, raster and stroke displays through software. Furthermore, Tokuhashi has the same image on each display where, in the present invention, one is able to have unique images on each display. These claims are dependent claims. Due to the allowability of the independent claims, the dependent claims are also allowable.

Having responded to each and every objection and rejection raised by the Examiner, it is believed that the patent application is now in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or

suggestions for expediting an allowance in this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned collect.


This Response to Office Action is submitted in response to the office action dated May 8, 2002, making this response due August 8, 2002. Filed concurrently herewith is a Request for a One-Month Extension of Time, making this Response due by September 8, 2002. It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response in application Serial No. 09/460,197, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time, sufficient to effect a timely response at any time during prosecution. A check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed herewith for payment of the one-month extension fee.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17, which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 01-2335.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 28, 2002

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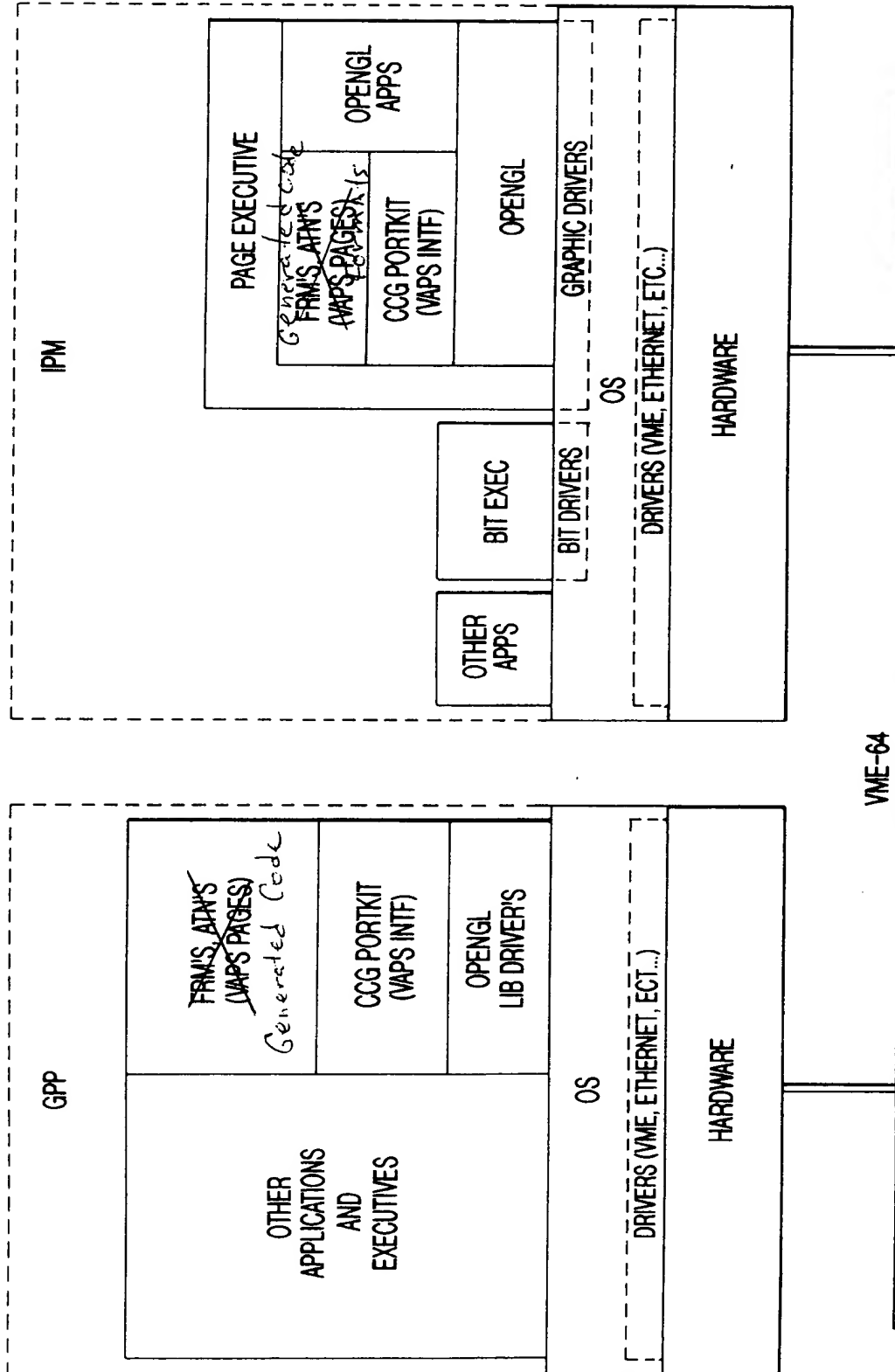


FIG-1



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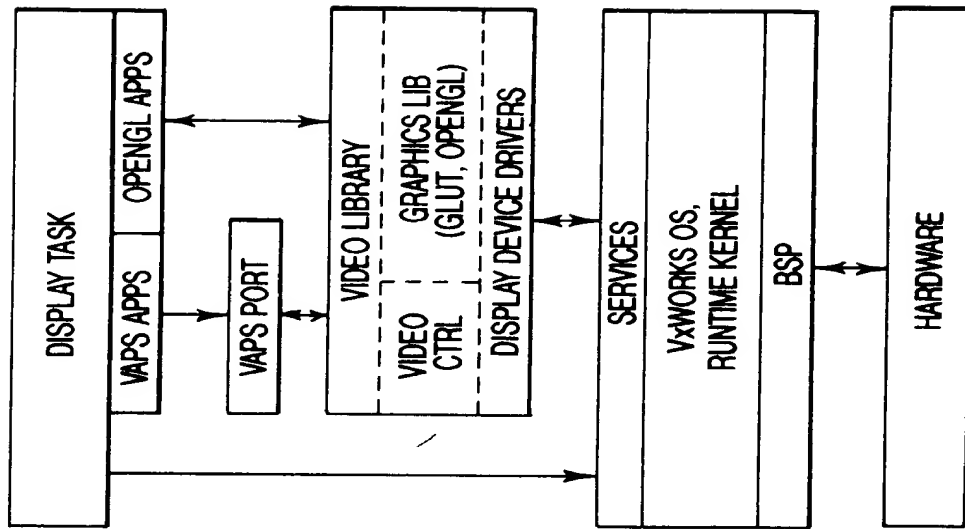
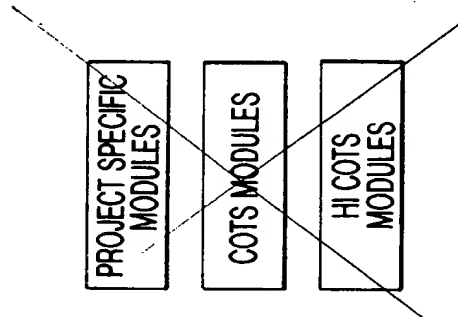


FIG-2





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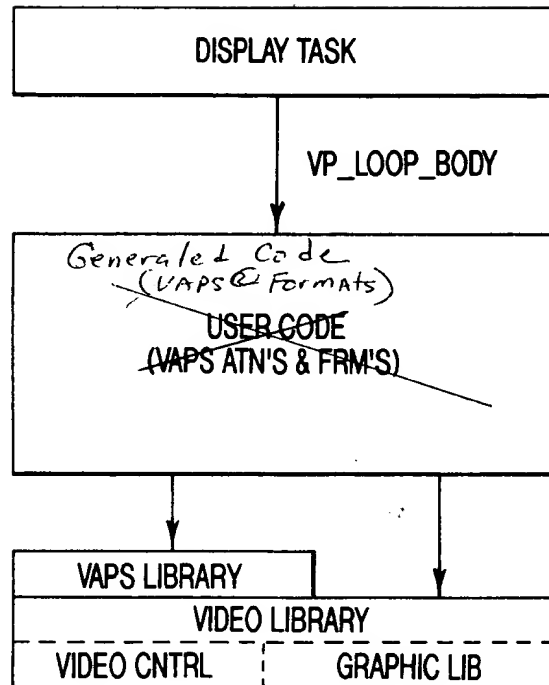


FIG-3



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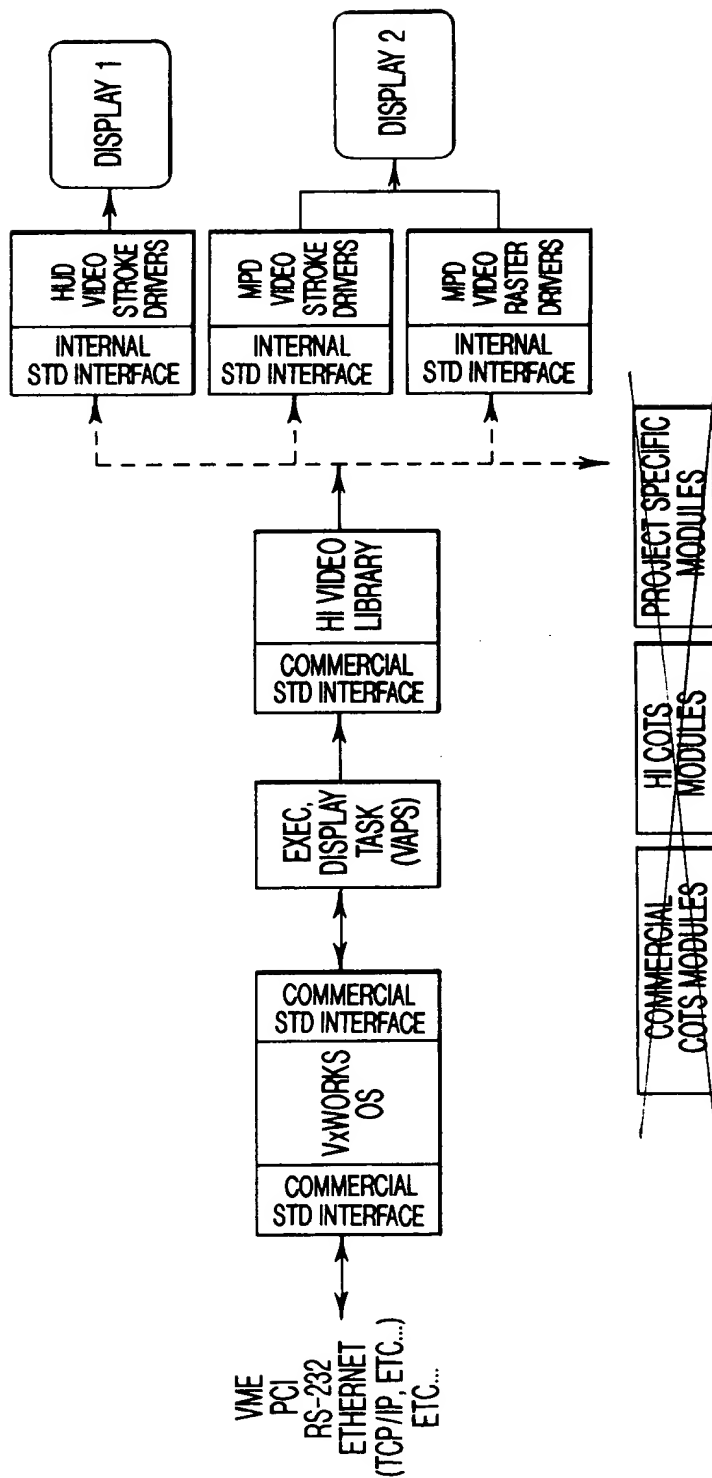


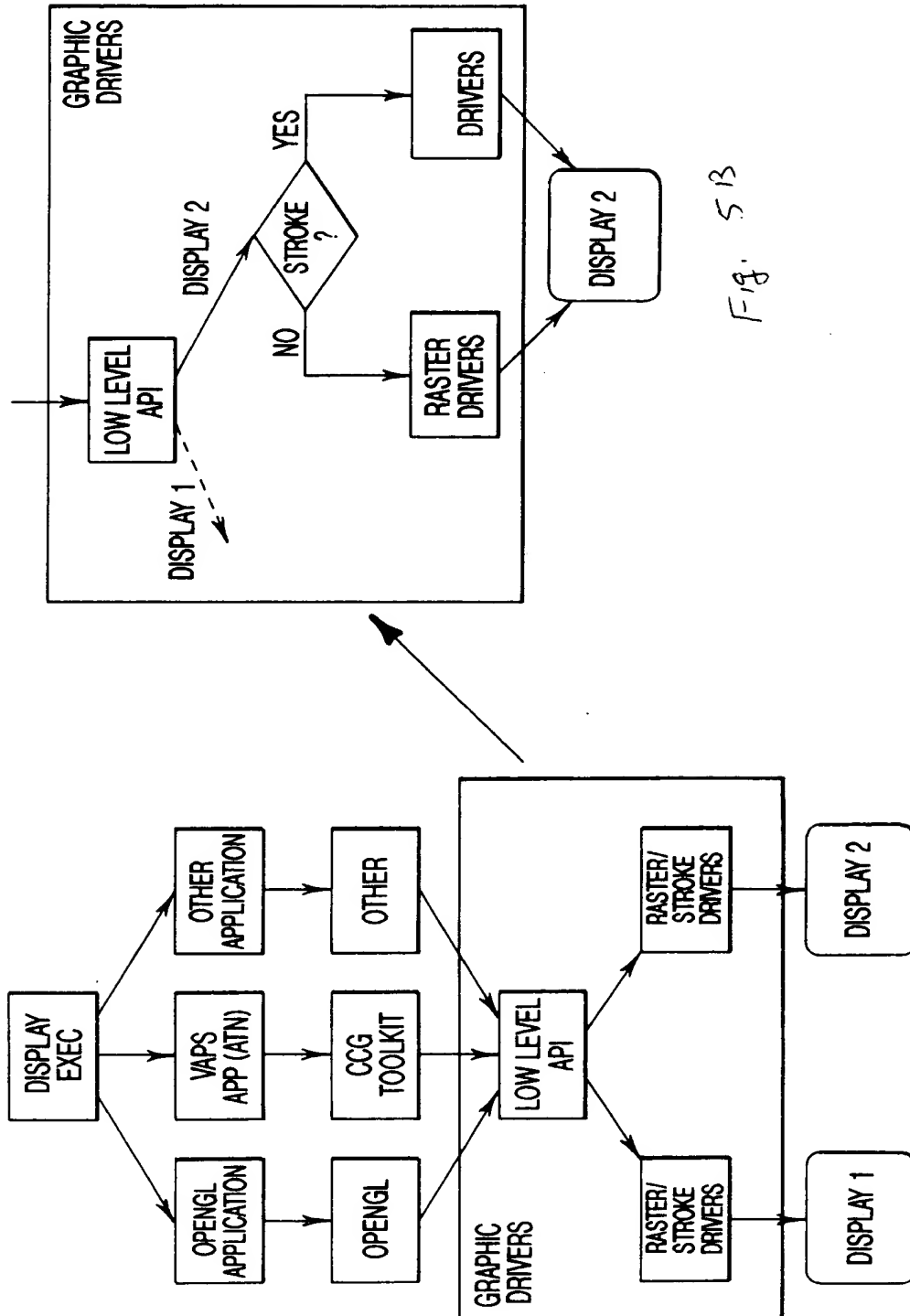
FIG-4



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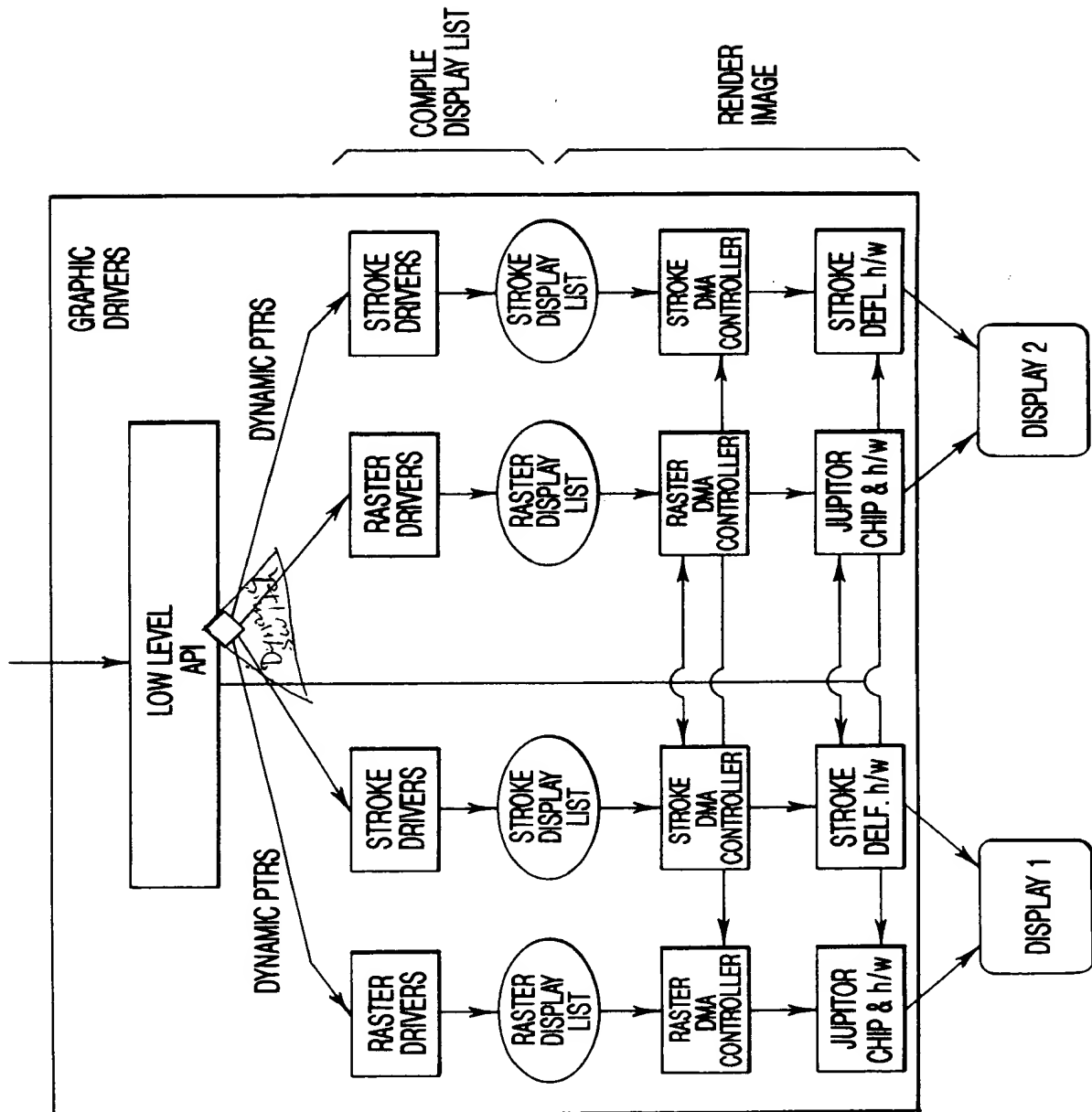
~~FIG. 5~~



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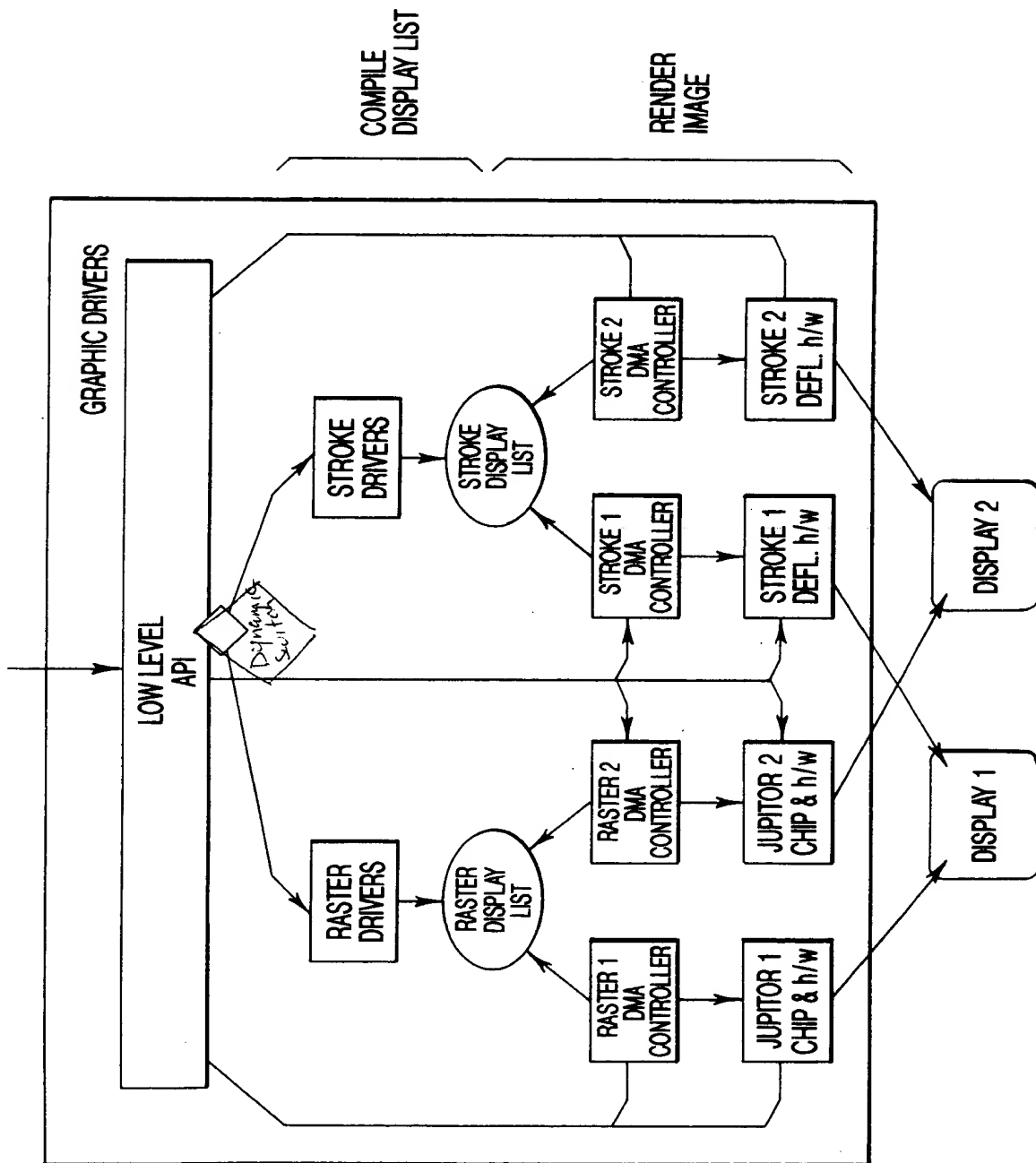


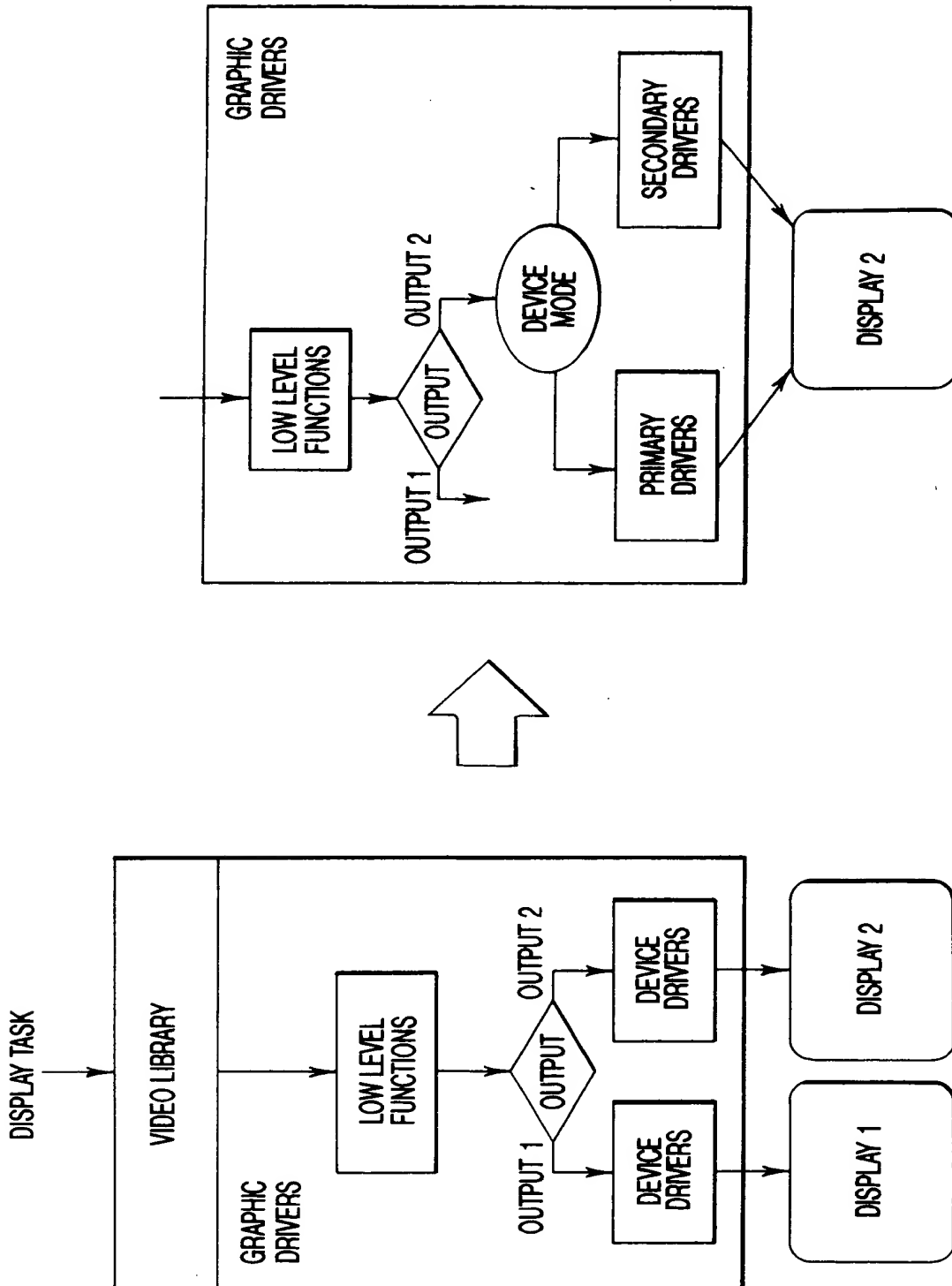
FIG-7



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~~FIG. 10~~